

P21747.A04



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : George C. ALLEN Jr. et al.

Group Art Unit 2661

Appln. No : 10/024,182

Filed : December 21, 2001

For : ATM-BASED DISTRIBUTED VIRTUAL TANDEM SWITCHING
SYSTEM

COMPLETION OF RECORD

RECEIVED

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

OCT 02 2002

Technology Center 2600

Sir :

On August 27, 2002 a first Office Action was issued for corresponding Canadian Patent Application No. 2,299,438.

To complete the record regarding the above-identified document, attached is a copy of the First Office Action, in which it was indicated by the Canadian Examiner that a search of the prior art did not "reveal any pertinent references".

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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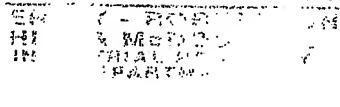
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August 27, 2002

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SEP 5 2002

Dec. 27, 2002
Sept 27, 2002

Application No. : 2,299,438
Owner : SBC TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES, INC.
Title : ATM-BASED DISTRIBUTED VIRTUAL TANDEM SWITCHING
SYSTEM
Classification : H04L-12/28
Your File No. : ZKLW-168PCA
Examiner : G. Matar

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION 30(2) OF THE PATENT RULES, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF A REQUISITION BY THE EXAMINER. IN ORDER TO AVOID ABANDONMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH 73(1)(A) OF THE PATENT ACT, A WRITTEN REPLY MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 4 MONTHS AFTER THE ABOVE DATE.

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This application has been examined as originally filed.

The number of claims in this application is 25.

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The examiner has identified the following defects in the application:

A search of the prior art has thus far failed to reveal any pertinent references.

Claim 7 is indefinite and does not comply with Subsection 27(4) of the Patent Act. The expression "the T-IWF and the end office switch are positioned at the same location" at page 28, line 22, is vague.

Claim 20 is indefinite and does not comply with Subsection 27(4) of the Patent Act. The term "the T-IWF" at page 29, lines 28 and 29 has no antecedent.

A statement in an application, such as found on page 1, lines 8-9, which incorporates by reference any other document, does not comply with Subsection 81(1) of the Patent Rules.

In accordance with Subsection 81(2) of the Patent Rules, all documents referred to in the description of an application must be available to the public. Reference to the document on page 1, lines 6 to 8 must be deleted or replaced by its corresponding patent or publication number.

Canada



2,299,438

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In view of the foregoing defects, the applicant is requisitioned to amend the application in order to comply with the Patent Act and the Patent Rules or to provide arguments as to why the application does comply.

G. Matar
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